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NHAN DAN 'COMMENTATOR' SCORES U.S. STAND AT NEGOTIATIONS

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[Nhan Dan 25 September article by Nganai Bich Lien [Commentator]. -V. Article given]

[Text] World public opinion continues to comment on the statement made on 11 September 1972 and 14 September 1972 by the PRGRSV and the DRV Government.

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Faced with the negotiating stands of both sides on the key problems--which is the problem of administration in South Vietnam--public opinion has realized ever more clearly that the Nixon administration's negotiating stand contains many illogical aspects.

Most illogical is that regardless of the realities in the southern part of our country and at the conference table itself, the U.S. negotiating stand plots to maintain one side and eliminate the other side in the negotiations.

The realities in the south are: The people's administration and the people's armed forces are existing and developing in the fight against and the defeat of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys, while the Saigon puppet administration is only a tool of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and is in a defeated and declining posture, as outlined in the PRSRSV's 11 September statement.

The realities at the conference table are: The PRGRSV delegation, led by Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh, has played a positive role in advancing solutions which have created a broad response among world public opinion and in the United States itself. Turning its back on these realities, the U.S. negotiating stand has demanded constitutional and legal recognition and the sole survival of the Saigon puppet administration.

The solution advanced by the U.S. side advocates the materialization of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination through the election of a president--a position prescribed by the puppet constitution. Between the restoration of peace and the holding of this election Thieu's puppet administration would continue to survive with its coercive machinery. Thieu would resign only 1 month before the election of a new president. This election to be held within the framework of the Saigon puppet administration, would of course result in maintaining and consolidating the puppet administration.

It is necessary to stress that the U.S. negotiating stand is truly aimed at eliminating the revolutionary administration which the Vietnamese people in the south have built and protected with their blood and bones. If action were taken in conformity with the U.S. proposal, after peace was restored the PRGRSV would no longer exist and the liberation armed forces would cease fire, which means that they would lay down their weapons and end their national salvation resistance. All the patriots, including the leaders of the PRGRSV, the NFLSV, and the [word indistinct] and the liberation armed forces' combatants, would be only members of the political forces, would be allowed to have their representatives participate in the organization of independent elections and run for the presidency, and would be allowed to participate in elections, the result of which would be the legalization of the Saigon puppet administration.

Is it possible to allow the aggressors, through a deceitful trick, to achieve what a great many military strategies over four presidential terms, with more than half a million expeditionary troops and with the massive participation of the U.S. air and naval forces, failed to achieve?

The second illogical thing is: While the Nixon administration calls this insolent stand "honorable," it has distorted our people's stand, which rejects the imposition of a definite form of government on the South Vietnamese people and also refutes a proposal whose outcome might bring this about, as stated by Kissinger at the 16 September press conference in Washington.

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As far as imposition is concerned, the Americans themselves have for years used bombs, shells, and dollars to impose on the Vietnamese people in the south a neo-colonialist, annexing yoke, of which the most recent government form is Thieu's presidential regime, which was born in the one-man election farce and has been condemned by public opinion.

This government has been so seriously rotten that without the efforts to re-Americanize the war it would have collapsed completely long ago. The PRGRSV has, on the contrary, stood firmly amid rains of bombs and typhoons of shells and has taken deep roots in the South Vietnamese people's hearts.

Where else in this world have human beings so eloquently and bravely manifested the close relationship between the people and the administration, which they have themselves built. Undoubtedly the PRGRSV is the people's administration, the symbol of the people's right to self-determination, and the genuine representative of the people in the southern part of our country.

However, to attain a realistic and just settlement through negotiations respecting the honor of all sides, the PRGRSV has based itself on the realistic situation in the south, where there are two administrations, two armies, and other political forces. National concord with all factions in the south must be effected based on mutual equality, respect, and non-elimination. It is necessary to insure freedom and democracy for the people. To achieve this objective it is necessary to establish in South Vietnam a national concord government consisting of three equal segments to take charge of all affairs in the transitional period and organize general elections that are truly free and democratic, according to the PRGRSV's 11 September statement.

Is there any other settlement that is more rational and reasonable? Why did the Americans not accept this proposal? According to the above statement by Kissinger, the Americans seem to fear that this proposal would lead to the result that a certain form of government would be forced upon South Vietnam. This is another illogical point in the U.S. negotiations stand.

If the U.S. Government really respected the South Vietnamese people's self-determination right and wanted to negotiate seriously to reach a peaceful solution to the South Vietnam problem, all sides would be able to agree on effective measures to dissipate that fear. As clearly pointed out in the PRGRSV's 11 September statement, the PRGRSV is ready to agree with the U.S. Government that neither a communist system nor a U.S. lackey puppet administration system shall be imposed on South Vietnam.

The U.S. Government can agree with the parties concerned on the necessary measures to insure that no party controls political life in South Vietnam.

The Nixon administration has always said it wants peace in Vietnam and independence and democracy for the South Vietnamese people. If it continues to negotiate with an attempt to maintain one party and exterminate another party, how can the war be ended and how can peace be achieved? If it persists in maintaining the dictatorial, rotten lackey administration to serve as a tool for achieving neocolonialism, how can it still speak of independence and freedom?

The United States stubbornly demands the liquidation of the adversary and the maintenance of the Saigon puppet administration's "constitutionality and legality" and opposes the establishment of a three-segment national concord government.

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This is the greatest impediment stalemating the Paris negotiations.

The correct path is, on the basis of the actual situation in South Vietnam, to establish during the transition period--from the restoration of peace to the organization of truly free and democratic elections--a provisional national concord government that is not controlled by any of the parties concerned.

Do the Americans want peace or do they want to continue the war? Do the Americans dare, together with the parties concerned, to set forth and implement measures necessary to insure that none of the parties concerned will control the political life in South Vietnam during that transition period?

How will the U.S. side answer these illogical points?